



CITY OF ALBANY COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW BOARD

POLICE LIAISON COMMITTEE

Sept. 3, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

Video of this meeting is available at
<https://www.albanycprb.org/home/minutes-and-reports/>

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

(V. Harden)

Board Members Present: Ivy Morris, Nairobi Vives, Warren Hamilton, Larry Becker, Veneilya Harden.

Also Present: Ava Ayers, Commander Anthony Battuello, Detective Lieutenant Decker, Marisa Franchini, Robert Magee, and members of the public.

V. Harden called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. Procedure in the Wake of the Repeal of Civil Rights Law 50-a

(V. Harden)

The topic of the meeting was the information that would be available to the Board members now that the New York State Legislature has repealed Civil Rights Law 50-a.

Officers' Personnel Records

As for the personnel records of the officer who is the target of a complaint: Board members expressed a consensus that officers' disciplinary history should be part of the information made available to the Board for review in every case. Commander Battuello agreed that this information would be made available to the Board. Members of the public, however, will have to obtain this information by going through the Freedom of Information Law process. There was some discussion of how prior disciplinary history might be relevant to a case, which would vary depending on the circumstances.

This information will also now be available to the Board in pending cases, regardless of whether they were filed before 50-a was repealed. Redactions might be necessary to protect specific information such as the identity of confidential informants.

There was also some discussion of complaints' prior history and whether they might be relevant to the case.

Redactions

Redactions in the casefile: before the repeal of 50-a, OPS would redact the name of officers from all reports and documents presented to the Board, and the GLC would not retain any documents that contained that name. Board members and OPS took the view that these redactions were now unnecessary, and it was agreed that they will no longer be performed.

Discussion of Officers' Names at Public Meetings

OPS representatives asked that officers' names not be mentioned during public meetings. Board members were receptive to that view, although one member of the public commented that the public has an interest in knowing about complaints against officers. The Board will take up this issue at a future meeting.